

THE
TRYAL and CONDEMNATION
OF
Mr. Will. Staley
FOR
High-Treason,
AT
The Kings-Bench-Bar
At WESTMINSTER,

On *Thursday* the 21st of Nov. 1678.

Who was there Condemned to be
Hang'd, Drawn, and Quarter'd for speak-
ing of Desperate, Malicious, and Treason-
able Words against the Kings most Ex-
cellent Majesty.

With the particular Evidence given against
him, the Defence he made for himself, and all
other material Circumstances.

LICENSED, 1678.

LONDON: Printed for R. G. 1678.

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TRIAL AND CONDEMNATION

THE KING'S CASE

High-Treason

At WESTMINSTER
The Kings Bench

On the 11th day of May 1678

Who was there Condemned to be
Hanged, Drawn, and Quarter'd for speak-
ing of Deposition, Murther, and Treason-
able Words against the Kings most Ex-
cellent Majesty.
With the particular Evidence given against
him, the Defence he made for himself, and all
other material Circumstances.

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THE
Tryal and Condemnation
OF
Mr. Will. Staley

A
PAPIST.

THis Person that now received
 his Tryal, was by Trade, a Gold-
 smith, and by Profession, as to
 Religion, a Papist. He had
 been bred a considerable part of his time be-
 yond the Seas, and there, 'tis fear'd, by too
 much familiarity with the Jesuits, had im-
 bib'd some of their desperate Principles. The

Sum of the matter upon proof against him,
appeared to be thus :

Three Gentlemen that by their Garb, Behaviour, and testimony of divers that knew them, appeared to be Persons of Worth and unrepachable Credit, gave Evidence against him, That upon the fourteenth day of this instant *November*, they being at a Cooks shop in the Parish of *St. Giles*, the Prisoner at Bar was with another man in a Room opposite to that they were in; and the door being open, they had a perfect sight of the Prisoner, and were not above eight foot or thereabouts distant from him, when they stood at their door: And that the Prisoner being discoursing with the old man that was with him, the old man said in *French*, That the King of *England* was a great Persecutor or Tormentor of the people of God (meaning, as we must understand, *Papists*). In answer to which, the Prisoner at Bar, stamping with his foot several times, and appearing to be in passion, said (likewise in *French*) words too insolent and malicious to be repeated and tran-

translated. And (stretching forth his Arm
and then clapping his Hand on his Breast)
speaking of His Sacred Majesty, said, *I myself
will kill him.* And that afterwards they heard
him say, *That the King and Parliament thought
the business (meaning the Plot) was over,
but the Rogues (so this Villain was pleased
to call them) were mistaken.* Two of these
three Gentlemen well understood French,
but the third did not; however, the other
two at the same instant express'd their Loy-
alty, by telling him, with much commenda-
ble Zeal, that the person in the next Room
spoke most detestable *Treason*; and that they
could not endure to hear it, repeating the
sense of their words in English. And as for
the words *Et Roy d'Angleterre*, though he
understood not the Language, now deposed,
he perfectly heard as well as they. But none
of the three at that time knowing the now
Prisoner, nor having to their knowledge ever
seen him before, and he with his Companion
just upon speaking the aforesaid words, be-
ing about going one of the Wicwells watcht
him to the place where he went unto, being
his

his Father's House, and upon enquiry learn'd his name, &c. That next morning they came thither, and upon colour of buying something, carried him to the Cross-keys Tavern over against his Dwelling; where they staid three hours or thereabouts, whilst one of them went to seek, and could not in all that time procure a Constable, because he had no Warrant from a Justice. But having at last got some from the Guard at White-ball, and a Constable, they seiz'd him; and after Examination, he was committed first to the Gatchouse, and afterwards sent to Newgate, from whence he was now with a strong Guard conducted, having on the day before been Arraigned.

He had the honour to have a most worthy Jury, most of them Knights and Squires, all Gentlemen of Quality. Nor had ever man a more fair and equal Hearing; but the Defence that he made was frivolous; sometimes alledging that the distance between him and the Witnesses was greater, yet owned that the Door was not shut. He also much insisted that they mistook the *French* words

words he spoke; and whereas they rendered it in English, *I my self would kill him*, he affirmed that he meant and said, *I would kill my self*. But as well the Witnesses testimony, as the sense of the foregoing and subsequent Discourse took off that evasion. He further pretended that the Old man (whom he said was one of his Workmen) did not speak French, but a Jargon, or kind of Italian; but the two Witnesses being questioned to that, absolutely disproved it, affirming what was then spoken was French, and that they well understood it; and several times repeated the very words both French and the English thereof in Court. And besides, though it was asserted that the Prisoner was offered to have what person he had occasion for summoned to attend at his Tryal; and that a Gentleman was so kind, as to go to the Prisoners Fathers House with a note of several persons names that he desired should appear on his behalf; amongst whom was the afore-said Old man that was with him at the time of speaking the Words, and notice was given thereof to one of their Agents; yet the
 afore-

aforesaid Old man, who it seems was a kind
 of Italian, did not think fit to appear; so
 that upon a full discussion of all that the Pri-
 soner had to say, the Crime appeared so e-
 vidently proved, upon the Statute made in
 the Reign of our present Sovereign for the
 preservation of his Royal Person, that with-
 out withdrawing from the Bar, the Jury
 found him Guilty, and accordingly he forth-
 with received Sentence to be Drawn and
 Hang'd, his Bowels Burnt, his Body to be
 Quartered, and disposed on the City Gates,

And several times repeated; and several times repeated;
 the very words both twice and the English
 in Court. And besides, though it
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 have what person he had occasion for sum-
 moned to attend at his Trial; and that a
 Gentleman was to kind, as to go to the Pri-
 soner, and show him with a note of several
 persons names that he desired should appear
 on his behalf: **F. N. I. S.**

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 of speaking the Words, and notice was giv-
 ven thereof to one of their Agents; yet the

